



Ash Tree Removal Project

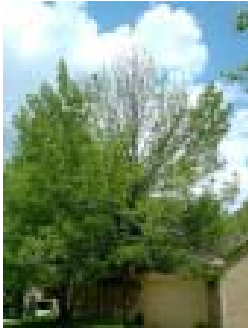
The City of Troy has begun removing all ash street trees as well as all ash trees on municipal grounds. The ash tree removal project was enacted in response to the devastating effects of the Emerald Ash Borer infestation in our region. Ash trees are being removed to eliminate existing and potential hazard to residents, not to control the spread of the insect. The City has contracted with **J. H. Hart Urban Forestry** to implement the project. They are proceeding section-by-section through Troy removing City ash trees.



Emerald Ash Borer

Residents should understand that the tree crews are under contract with the City of Troy for removal of city-owned trees only. The contractor will not be able to remove private trees or chip private debris as part of this contract.

The Emerald Ash Borer has been aggressively attacking ash trees in Southeast Michigan, resulting in the death of 8-10 million of the State's estimated 700 million ash trees. To date, no treatment has shown to be 100% effective against the pest. When symptoms are noticed, an ash tree has 1-2 years before death occurs. The City of Troy has decided to remove all ash street trees and ash on municipal grounds as soon as possible so that we may begin the process of replanting the affected areas with new trees.



This tree is dying from EAB infestation. The branches at the top start dying off first.

Replanting efforts began the spring of 2005 and we will attempt to complete replanting within 2-3 years following removal. At this time only one tree will be planted at each location. New trees will be spaced in an effort to allow for additional trees to be planted 3 to 5 years later, however the City does not guarantee the quantity of trees that will ultimately be planted at each site. Replacement trees will be approximately 1 1/2" in diameter, approximately 6 feet tall. Replacement tree types will be carefully selected to ensure diversity in our urban forest. Due to the wide-spread devastation caused by the Emerald Ash Borer in Southeast Michigan, replacement trees are in high demand. We cannot specify the exact types of trees we will be replanting. That decision will be based on availability of plant material from the local and regional nurseries. If a resident does not want to wait for the City to replant, or would like to install a larger tree than will be planted by the

City, they may do so at their own expense. Prior to planting, residents will need to pull the recommended tree list and permit requirements off the City website.

Residents should understand that **J. H. Hart Urban Forestry** personnel and equipment will be visible throughout the City over the next several years. Crews will be working Monday through Friday and some Saturdays. Individual streets will be briefly blocked off during the tree removal and site restoration process. Crews will remove the dead/dying tree, grind the stump/roots 6" below grade, fill in with topsoil and apply grass seed. Trees will not be replanted in the same spot, but will be nearby.

Neighborhoods will receive notice 24-48 hours before crews will be taking City trees adjacent to their property. Residents will be asked to clear away stones, yard art, plants, and other decoration from the City right of way property (area between the sidewalk and the street).



Underneath the bark, you can see the pathways where the EAB larvae have eaten away at the Ash tree.

- The Parks and Recreation Department Emerald Ash Borer Hot-line: 248-619-7667.
- Resident concerns, questions or comments: Contact Ron Hynd or Jeff Biegler at 248-524-3484.

Photos courtesy of the Michigan Department of Agriculture - www.michigan.gov/mda/